

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ISO-00 IO-13 HA-05 CIAE-00 DODE-00
PM-05 H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01
SP-02 SS-15 ICA-11 /094 W
-----074726 191646Z /41

R 181622Z JUL 78
FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4475
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN
AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN
AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM
AMEMBASSY GABORONE
AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM
AMEMBASSY LAGOS
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY LUSAKA
AMEMBASSY MAPUTO
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

C O N F I D E N T I A L MOSCOW 16800

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PORG, UNSC, SF, UR, WA
SUBJECT: SWAPO LEADER NUJOMA IN MOSCOW
1. PRAVDA JULY 18 REPORTS THAT PRESIDENT SAM NUJOMA
AND UNNAMED OTHER DELEGATES REPRESENTING SWAPO MET
WITH CANDIDATE POLITBURO MEMBER PONOMAREV AND CPSU CC
INTERNATIONAL DEPARTMENT DEPUTY UL'YANOVSKIY IN MOSCOW
JULY 17. ACCORDING TO THE BRIEF ITEM NUJOMA DESCRIBED
THE STRUGGLE WHICH THE NAMIBIAN PEOPLE UNDER SWAPO
LEADERSHIP ARE CONDUCTING AGAINST THE SAG FOR
"GENUINE" INDEPENDENCE AND THANKED THE CPSU AND
SOVIET PEOPLE FOR THEIR SUPPORT. PONOMAREV IN
TURN EXPRESSED "SOLIDARITY WITH THE NATIONAL-PATRIOTIC
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FORCES OF NAMIBIA." THE MEETING WAS SAID TO HAVE
TAKEN PLACE IN A "WARM, COMRADELY ATMOSPHERE."

2. THE SOVIET PRESS HAS NOT REPORTED THE MOVEMENT
TOWARDS A NAMIBIAN SETTLEMENT AND NO OTHER INFORMATION
IS CARRIED ON NUJOMA'S VISIT. THE UK EMBASSY TELLS
US IT WAS ALERTED TO NUJOMA'S INTENDED TRAVEL TO

MOSCOW AND UNDERSTANDS HE WILL TRAVEL FROM HERE DIRECTLY TO THE KHARTOUM OAU SUMMIT. THE AFRICAN DIPLOMATS WE HAVE SPOKEN WITH HAVE NO OTHER INFORMATION ON THE VISIT.

3. COMMENT: THE PRAVDA ACCOUNT OF THE MEETING RUNS ALONG THE LINES OF THE REPORT CARRIED OCTOBER 10 A YEAR AGO WHEN NUJOMA WAS LAST OFFICIALLY IN MOSCOW. AT THAT TIME HE WAS ALSO RECEIVED BY PONOMAREV AND UL'YANOVSKIY. THE FACT THAT THE ITEM, WHILE STATING CONTINUED SOVIET "SOLIDARITY" WITH SWAPO, DOES NOT ACKNOWLEDGE ANY DISCUSSION OF THE WESTERN-BACKED PLAN FOR NAMIBIA OR SWAPO'S ACCEPTANCE OF IT, INDICATES THE SOVIETS ARE NOT PREPARED TO STATE PUBLICLY THEIR OWN POSITION FOR THE TIME BEING. PRIVATELY OFFICIAL SOVIETS PROBABLY REMAIN DUBIOUS SWAPO WILL HAVE ITS HOPES FULFILLED. GROMYKO'S SON ANATOLIY, HEAD OF THE AFRICA INSTITUTE, TOLD A VISITING WEST GERMAN A FEW DAYS AGO THAT HE WAS SKEPTICAL NAMIBIA WOULD RECEIVE REAL INDEPENDENCE BY THE YEAR'S END. MATLOCK

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: VISITS, POLITICAL LEADERS, REGIONAL ORGANIZATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 18 jul 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978MOSCOW16800
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780296-0670
Format: TEL
From: MOSCOW
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780748/aaaabokh.tel
Line Count: 84
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: f7305171-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 03 may 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1971995
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SWAPO LEADER NUJOMA IN MOSCOW
TAGS: PORG, SF, UR, WA, UNSC, SWAPO, (NUJOMA, SAM)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odhc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/f7305171-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014